

## L.A. Homeless Service Authority (LAHSA) 2016 Homeless Youth Count

By M.C. Harris, Community Worker & Staff Photographer



*Individuals with certificates from left to right: M.C. Harris, Natasha Billups, Lauren Johnson, Rasean Jones, and Lamont Bell*

On January 26, 2016, the LACDMH Transitional Age Youth (TAY) System of Care, including supervisors and navigators, assisted in the homeless youth count. From the beginning, LACDMH staff participated in the discussion and planning of the count at shelters and drop in centers; they learned where to go and how to count TAY Youth using questionnaires and/or a Smart phone app.



LAHSA Commissioner Mike Neely and his staff provided volunteers with maps, and we were placed on teams. Volunteers engaged with the homeless in Services Area 6 at mini malls, on side streets, in parks, and at a probation office; anywhere there seemed to be youth between the ages of 18-24.

- The (daytime) youth count of unsheltered homeless youth in the Greater Los Angeles was 2,781
- The evening youth count was 2,092
- The number counted in shelter and transitional housing programs was 1,277.